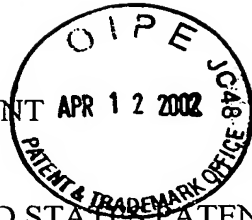


Docket No.: 217943US0X CONT APR 12 2002



HCHA
KP
8-1-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
Adrianna Silva HEMERLY, et al. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: 10/036,492 :
FILED: JANUARY 7, 2002 :
FOR: PLANT PROTEINS :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office communication mailed February 12, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0005] on pages 2-3 as follows:

A'
Activation of CDC7 as a kinase occurs at the G1/S transition of the cell cycle and is dependent on the binding with another factor, DBF4, at the G1/S transition of the cell cycle, probably by phosphorylating proteins at the origins (Kitada et al, 1992; Genetics 131: 21-29, Lei et al; Genes and Development 11, 3365-3374, 1997). In order to function as a kinase, the CDC7 kinase may be a substrate for one or more phosphorylation events. Overexpressed kinase-negative mutants of CDC7 arrest yeast cells in the G1 to S transition and inhibit growth. Further experiments showed that the inactivation of wild-type CDC7 function probably can be explained through titration of DBF4 by the inactive cdc7 mutant proteins